

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

had passed most of his time at Viterbo, and especially in the high-lying and salubrious Montefiascone.

The work of Albornozy had been left incomplete in one essential point. Perugia, the third city of the Papal States, was still unsubdued. Its subjugation was a very different matter from hunting out the tyrants of such places as Forlì or Imola : Perugia was a free and powerful Republic, only nominally subject to the Church. A conspiracy of the Baglioni in October, 1368, to surrender the city to the Pope, led to open war between it and the Holy See, in which the Benedictine Pierre d'Estaing, Archbishop of Bourges, had directed the papal forces ; while the Perugians had been aided in their resistance by Bernabo Visconti, Giovanni di Vico, and Hawkwood's English mercenaries. They had at first been successful, and had even, in the following year, threatened the Pope himself in Montefiascone. Urban naturally answered with excommunications and interdict. In the October of this year, 1369, he received in Rome the Emperor of the East, Johannes V Palaeologus, who came to implore aid against the Turks. Thus the Pope, in the space of a year, had seen the successors of Charlemagne and Justinian alike at his feet; but found his power defied by a small Umbrian republic from its hill.

In April, 1370, Urban for the last time left Rome for Viterbo and Montefiascone. Giovanni di Vico submitted ; the Perugians opened negotiations for peace. Then, at Montefiascone, the Pope suddenly announced his intention of returning to Avignon.

From the outset, Petrarca had hailed the papal return to Rome as the beginning of a new age for the Church—but only a beginning—and he had doubted the Pope's strength of will. He had greeted him on his arrival with the words of the Psalmist, *In exitu Israel de Aegypto* : " When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a barbarous people, there was joy among the Angels in heaven and among the faithful on earth. And lo! thou, most blessed Father, as far as in thee lies, hast rendered the Christian people happy. No longer will they now go wandering in search of their Lord or of His vicar; but the one they